

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T VIENNA 9522

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: AD HOC GROUP MEETING AFTERNOON OF
NOVEMBER 16

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: AD HOC GROUP, NOVEMBER 16 AFTERNOON SESSION
UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF ACTING ITALIAN REP (TALIANI),
APPROVED AND DISPATCHED TO NATO OUTLINE OF PROPOSALS
(FRAMEWORK)(SEE VIENNA 9511 NOTAL) REQUESTING FINAL
APPROVAL OF NAC. AHG ALSO REVIEWED TEXT OF ACCOMPANY-
ING PRESENTATION (TEXT SEPTEL). US UNDERTOOK TO
REVISE STATEMENT TO TRACK WITH OUTLINE PROPOSAL FOR
FINAL REVIEW BY AHG ON NOVEMBER 19. IT WAS AGREED THAT
US WILL PRESENT ALLIED OUTLINE (FRAMEWORK) PROPOSAL HOPEFULLY AT
PLENARY ON NOVEMBER 22. AHG PROVIDED INTIAL COMMENTS ON STATEMENT
ON DISPARITIES AND DATA BASE WHICH UK REP (ROSE) WILL DELIVER

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IN NOVEMBER 20 PLENARY. UK WILL REVISE TEXT IN LIGHT OF THESE

COMMENTS FOR FINAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY AHG ON NOVEMBER 19. AHG TENTATIVELY AGREED TO RECESS FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS DECEMBER 15 TO JANUARY 7 BUT ANTICIPATED NEED FOR POSSIBLE WORK IN EARLY PART OF JANUARY IN PREPARATION FOR NEXT ROUND. END SUMMARY.

2. OUTLINE PROPOSAL. IN FURTHER DISCUSSION OF ALLIED OUTLINE PROPOSAL UK REP ACTING ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM LONDON, SOUGHT TO ELIMINATE REFERENCES IN OUTLINE TO SEPARATE FIRST AND SECOND PHASE AGREEMENTS. UK REP SAID LONDON BELIEVED ALLIES SHOULD BE CAREFUL IN FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL TO RETAIN FLEXIBILITY ON STRUCTURE OF AGREEMENTS EMERGING FROM VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS SINCE ALLIES HAD NEITHER DISCUSSED NOR DECIDED THIS ISSUE. THERE MIGHT BE ONE OVERALL FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT COVERING BOTH STAGES OR SEVERAL. WHITEHALL PREFERRED TO AVOID POSITIONS WHICH COULD ELIMINATE ANY OPTIONS. NETHERLANDS, US AND CANADIAN REPS CRITICIZED UK APPROACH, POINTING OUT THAT PRACTICAL RESULT WAS THAT UK WAS ADVOCATING SOMETHING CLOSE TO SOVIET IDEA OF IMPLEMENTING SINGLE AGREEMENT IN STAGES. TO FOLLOW UK APPROACH COULD MAKE IT VERY DIFFICULT TO HOLD LINE AGAINST SOVIET EFFORTS TO NEGOTIATE ON NATIONAL AND FOREIGN FORCES IN A SINGLE PHASE OF NEGOTIATIONS. AFTER ALLIED MEMBERS OF AHG HAD STRONGLY QUESTIONED UK STANCE, UK REP TELEPHONED LONDON AND RECEIVED PERMISSION TO WITHDRAW HIS RESERVATION. HE STRESSED THAT UK HAD FELT SUBJECT SHOULD STILL BE KEPT OPEN, BUT THAT ARGUMENTS OF OTHER ALLIED DEMONSTRATED THAT THIS WOULD BE AT UNACCEPTABLE COST IN FORM UK HAD PROPOSED SO THAT UK WOULD GO ALONG WITH MENTION OF SEPARATE AGREEMENTS COVERING TWO PHASES OF NEGOTIATION. THIS WOULD NOT PRECLUDE THERE BEING MORE THAN ONE AGREEMENT IN EITHER PHASE IF NECESSARY. UK REP SAID HE WISHED TO MAKE QUITE CLEAR THAT UK WAS IN NO WAY MOVING TOWARD TYPE OF AGREEMENT PROPOSED BY WARSAW PACT.

3. AHG CLEARED MESSAGE TO NAC DURING MEETING
(TEXT SEPTTEL) REQUESTING EARLY APPROVAL FOR PRESENTATION TO THE EAST.

4. PRESENTATION OF WESTERN FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL.
AHG REVIEWED US DRAFT PRESENTATION WHICH WILL BE MADE IN PLENARY SESSION TO PRESENT ALLIED OUTLINE PROPOSAL. US UNDERTOOK TO REFINEDRAFT TO TRACK WITH AHG-APPROVED OUTLINE PROPOSALS FOR REVIEW BY AHG ON NOVEMBER 19. US REP SUGGESTED THAT THIS PRESENTATION BE MADE BY NETHERLANDS REP (QUALES) IN ORDER TO EMPHASIZE THAT IT

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REPRESENTED ALLIANCE POSITION. AD HOC GROUP DEMURRED, CITING FACT THAT SOVIET REP (KHLESTOV) HAD DELIVERED WARSAW PACT PROPOSAL AND IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR US REP, AS REPRESENTATIVE OF STRONGEST NATO POWER, TO MAKE REPLY, THAT IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR A EUROPEAN NATO REP TO PROPOSE US REDUCTIONS, AND FACT THAT QUARLES WOULD CHAIR PLENARY ON NOVEMBER 22, MAKING IT DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO MAKE PRESENTATION. US REP AGREED TO MAKE PRESENTATION.

5. UK STATEMENT ON DISPARITIES AND DATA BASE.

AHG PROVIDED INITIAL COMMENTS ON UK DRAFT STATEMENT INTENDED FOR DELIVERY IN PLENARY OF NOVEMBER 20. US REP SAID IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO CAST PAPER AS ELABORATION OF DISPARITIES SUPPORTED BY DATA. PRESENTATION OF DATA ALONE HAD NO EVIDENT PLACE IN CONTEXT OF ALLIED PRESENTATIONS. US DEPREP STRESSED THAT DATA DOES NOT STAND BY ITSELF AND CAN BE MOST EFFECTIVELY PRESENTED WHEN CORRELATED WITH DISPARITIES, WHICH SHOULD BE GIVEN HEAVY TREATMENT IN STATEMENT. UK REP THOUGHT IT BEST TO AVOID SPECIFIC MENTION OF FRENCH FORCES IN GERMANY BUT RATHER TO INCLUDE THEM IMPLICITLY IN TERM "FORCES OF THE NATO ALLIANCE IN THE REDUCTION AREA." FRG ACTING REP (HOFMANN) URGED THAT ALLIES NOT MERELY REHASH OLD THEMES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISPARITIES, LEST THEY BE ACCUSED OF AVOIDING DIALOGUE. IF ALLIES CONTINUED TO PRESENT NEW INFORMATION IN EACH OF THEIR STATEMENTS, THEY COULD COPE WITH EASTERN CRITICISM BY SHOWING THAT THEY WERE PROCEEDING IN A LOGICAL EXPOSITION OF VIEWS. US REP ASKED THAT UK EMPHASIZE DEFENSIVE DEPLOYMENT OF WEST IN REDRAFT AND POINT OUT THAT LARGE NUMBERS DESCRIBED ON WARSAW PACT SIDE MORE THAN ADEQUATE FOR DEFENSE. THIS WOULD BE APPROPRIATE LEADIN FOR PRESENTATION.

6. UK PAPER ON NUCLEAR ISSUE. NETHERLANDS REP ASKED WHEN ALLIES SHOULD BEGIN TO CONTEST EASTERN LINE THAT THERE WERE ALL KINDS OF DISPARITIES, SOME TO DISFAVOR OF PACT. WHILE IT MAY NOT BE REQUIRED IMMEDIATELY, AHG DOES NEED TO PREPARE ARGUMENTION ON THIS ISSUE. UK REP AGREED, AND SUGGESTED THAT AHG MIGHT DISCUSS THIS QUESTION FOLLOWING WEEK. HE SAID THAT UK HAD DONE CONSIDERABLE WORK ON NUCLEAR ASPECTS AND THAT HE HAD A DRAFT PAPER COVERING AIRCRAFT AS WELL WHICH HE WOULD CIRCULATE NEXT WEEK.

6. CHRISTMAS RECESS. CANADIAN REP ASKED AHG TO PIN DOWN DATES OF POSSIBLE CHRISTMAS RECESS SINCE HE HAD BEEN QUERIED BY OTTAWA. IN LIGHT OF FACT THAT EAST DELS, PARTICULARLY SOVIETS, HAD SHOWN STRONG
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INTEREST IN INFORMAL CHRISTMAS RECESS OF AT LEAST THREE WEEKS, IT WAS TENTATIVELY AGREED THAT A FINAL AHG MEETING COULD BE HELD ON DECEMBER 14, WITH RECESS COMMENCING ON DECEMBER 15. NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BEGIN AGAIN WEEK OF JANUARY 7. THERE WOULD BE NO FORMAL BREAK.HUMES

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